

CHRIST
THE REDEEMER
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
August 24, 2025

Welcome to CHRIST THE REDEEMER...

We're glad you've joined us. Whether you have followed Jesus your whole life or you can't remember the last time you stepped foot in a church, we want you to feel welcome to come as you are and worship with our church family. If you have any questions about our church or where to find something, please don't hesitate to ask. We're excited about what God is doing among us as we seek to live, grow and serve as followers of Jesus in Portland and in our surrounding neighborhoods. So, welcome to CTR, we'd love to have you as part of our family.

During our service, our nursery is open for babies who are crawlers through 3-year-olds. If you need help finding the nursery area, please ask any of our greeters!

Children's Church is in session. After the blessing each week, children age 4 – 1st grade are welcome to go to Children's Church. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

→ You may use this QR code to link to the lyrics in our worship service today.



THE RHYTHM OF OUR WORSHIP

On the road to Emmaus (Luke 24), when Jesus' disciples found themselves troubled and confused, Jesus met them along the way. When they confessed their troubles and doubts to Him, His words and presence began to change them. He unfolded God's Word to them, pointing to His own person and work. He dined with them, giving thanks and breaking bread. The disciples recognized their Lord's presence with them and hurried to tell others the good news.

In the Emmaus story, we recognize the pattern of historic Christian worship as it began to take shape. Our worship liturgy at Christ the Redeemer moves through a specific rhythm: God **SUMMONS** us as His people, God **SANCTIFIES** us to Himself, God **SPEAKS** to us in His Word, God **STRENGTHENS** us at His table, and God **SENDS** us into the world to share His grace.

The emphasis throughout our worship is upon God's action and our appropriate response. In worship, we rehearse the gospel message of Jesus' death and resurrection and are caught up into the mission of the Triune God. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity as children of God and then impelling us outward into our world.

-adapted from City Church Philadelphia Guide to Our Worship

G O D S U M M O N S

[P R A I S E]

CALL TO WORSHIP

[L] The Lord says, “For behold, I create new heavens
and a new earth,

[P] **and the former things shall not be remembered
or come into mind.**

[L] But be glad and rejoice forever
in that which I create;
for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy,
and her people to be a gladness.

[P] **The wolf and the lamb shall graze together;
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,”**

[L] Lord, bring about this new creation even here today.

from Isaiah 65:17-25

SONG

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

G O D S A N C T I F I E S

[R E N E W A L]

CONFESSION OF SIN

[All] **Lord God, in your creation and in your Son, you have given us every good thing. You have given us beauty, the warmth of friendships, the blessings of food and shelter. In Jesus, you have given us life and the knowledge what God is like. But we have neglected your gifts and used them for our own selfish ends. We have ignored real signs of your presence and regarded your calls to radical discipleship as trivial.**

Forgive us, O Lord.

Open our eyes to see where you are at work. Strengthen our wills to bear witness to your work in the world. Give us the perseverance to run the race that is set before us as we look only to Jesus. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] God is faithful to His Word to forgive and restore. The Lamb who sits upon the throne says to us, “Behold, I make all things new.”

He alone has the power to transform us from the inside out. Rejoice, therefore, that in Christ, you are a new creation – loved, forgiven and free; the old has gone, the new is here!

[P] **Thanks be to God!**

SONG

THIS IS MY FATHER’S WORLD

LIFE OF THE PEOPLE
[ANNOUNCEMENTS]

NEW TO CTR? Welcome! If you would like to connect, learn more about our church or subscribe to our weekly announcement email, please use this QR code.



THE PEACE OF GOD
and THE BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

[L] May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

[P] **And also with you.**

[L] People of God, what is our prayer for these and all our children?

[All] **May the Lord be with you.**

[Children] **And also with you.**

After the blessing each week, children aged 4 – 1st grade are welcome to go to Children’s Church downstairs in Fellowship Hall. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

SONG
BE THOU MY VISION

G O D S P E A K S

[W O R D]

S C R I P T U R E

Isaiah 60:1-14, 19-20 & Revelation 21:1-5, 22-27

Read by Davd Dyke

The Future Glory of Israel

60 Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.

³ And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

⁷ All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you;
the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you;
they shall come up with acceptance on my altar,
and I will beautify my beautiful house.

⁸ Who are these that fly like a cloud,
and like doves to their windows?

⁹ For the coastlands shall hope for me,
the ships of Tarshish first,
to bring your children from afar,
their silver and gold with them,
for the name of the Lord your God,
and for the Holy One of Israel,
because he has made you beautiful.

¹⁰ Foreigners shall build up your walls,
and their kings shall minister to you;
for in my wrath I struck you,
but in my favor I have had mercy on you.

¹¹ Your gates shall be open continually;
day and night they shall not be shut,
that people may bring to you the wealth of the nations,
with their kings led in procession.

¹² For the nation and kingdom
that will not serve you shall perish;
those nations shall be utterly laid waste.

¹³ The glory of Lebanon shall come to you,
the cypress, the plane, and the pine,
to beautify the place of my sanctuary,
and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

¹⁴ The sons of those who afflicted you
shall come bending low to you,
and all who despised you
shall bow down at your feet;
they shall call you the City of the Lord,
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁹ The sun shall be no more
your light by day,
nor for brightness shall the moon
give you light;
but the Lord will be your everlasting light,

and your God will be your glory.
²⁰ Your sun shall no more go down,
 nor your moon withdraw itself;
 for the Lord will be your everlasting light,
 and your days of mourning shall be ended.

The New Heaven and the New Earth

²¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

²² And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵ and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

[L] The grass withers and the flower fades,
 but the Word of God stands forever.
 The Word of the Lord.

Isaiah 40:8

[P] **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Series:
THE RETURN OF CHRIST

Sermon:
ALL THINGS NEW

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts
Lead Pastor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed

[L] Christian, what do you believe?

[P] **I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Holly Churchill Lane

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come; your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

G O D S T R E N G T H E N S

[T A B L E]

C E L E B R A T I N G H O L Y C O M M U N I O N

A Word about Communion: Communion is the family meal of Christians. Baptized believers actively looking to Jesus as their hope for salvation are warmly invited to share in this meal with us as our brothers and sisters.

- *Please approach the servers by coming up the middle aisle and returning to your seat via the outside aisles.*
- *Once you receive the bread and wine/juice, please hold on to it as you return to your seat. We will partake together as one body after everyone has received the elements.*
- *Children and those who are not partaking are also welcome to approach the servers for a prayer or word of God's blessing. We ask that you fold your hands as you approach so the server is aware.*
- *Please dispose of your communion cups and any other trash in the wastebasket located at the back of the sanctuary or the one near the exit at the front of the sanctuary as you leave today. Thank you!*

SONG

DOXOLOGY [Old 100th]

W O R D S O F I N V I T A T I O N & I N S T I T U T I O N

P R A Y E R O F T H A N K S G I V I N G

P A R T A K I N G O F T H E E L E M E N T S

SONG

WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

PRAYERS OF REFLECTION

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth and the Life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH SIN

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

G O D S E N D S

[MISSION]

RESPONSES OF JOY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND RESOURCES

[our tithes and offerings]

If you would like to give online, please use this QR code:
This takes you to our online giving portal.



SONG

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

B E N E D I C T I O N a n d S E N D I N G

[L] Go in peace, in the knowledge of God's power.
Go in confidence, in the knowledge of God's strength.
Go in joy, in the knowledge of God's love.

[P] **Thanks be to God.**

HIGHLIGHTS

August 24, 2025

NEW TO CTR? Welcome! If you would like to connect, learn more about our church or subscribe to our weekly announcement email, please use this QR code.



📅 ON THE CALENDAR

🍁 FALL LAUNCH & CHURCH-WIDE POTLUCK

SUNDAY, SEPT 7 | after the Worship Service | 97 Allen Ave, Portland

Come celebrate the start of a new season of ministry with us! We'll be kicking off Community Groups, Christian Formation Classes for adults and children, an Inquirers' Class, and CTRKids ministry.

After the service, stay for a church-wide potluck!

- Last names A–H: bring a side dish
 - Last names I–Z: bring a dessert
- Bring along lawn chairs or picnic blankets and enjoy fellowship on the lawn. Kids can look forward to a bounce house and plenty of fun activities.

It's going to be a joyful time of worship, fellowship, and celebration—you won't want to miss it!

Questions? Contact Claire Roberts at 956-270-2565 or clerkus@gmail.com.

📖 CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

SUNDAYS, SEPT 7 – NOV 9 | 9:00 AM | 97 Allen Ave, Portland

This fall we're gathering for a new season of Christian Formation—opportunities for every age to grow in God's Word and in community.

Adult & Teen Class

Knowing God: Intro to Theology

You don't need a seminary degree to study theology—just a willingness to know God better. This class is for ordinary Christians who want their faith to be deep, steady, and joy-filled.

Together we'll walk through the core truths of the faith—God's character, his Word, his purposes, his promises, and his saving work through Jesus Christ. Whether you're a lifelong Christian, new to church, or just curious, this class will help you grow in knowledge, joy, confidence, and devotion.

CTRKids Classes

- **Ram Island Class:** Potty-Trained – PreK
- **Bug Light Class:** Kindergarten – 1st Grade
- **Two Lights Class:** 2nd – 4th Grade
- **Headlight Class:** 5th Grade +



Use this QR code to sign up!

Come ready to grow in faith and fellowship together this fall!

INQUIRERS' CLASSES (FALL)

SUNDAYS, SEPT 7 – NOV 9 | 9:00 AM | 97 Allen Ave, Portland

Interested in learning more about CTR? Considering joining our church as a member? Come to our Inquirers' Class! This is a great opportunity to hear about our heart and our history as a church, to interact with our leaders and staff, to meet other newcomers, and to ask your questions about what we do and why we do it.



Use this QR code to sign up!

There's no obligation to join CTR if you come to the class. However, if you would like to become a member, the Inquirers' Class is a prerequisite.

Questions? Contact Pastor Alden Groves at agroves@ctrportland.org or 215-704-0132.

BOOKS & BUBBLY

WED, SEPT 10 – 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland

September's pick: *Wild Dark Shore* by Charlotte McConaghy

Join us in September for *Books & Bubbly*! This month we're reading *Wild Dark Shore* by Charlotte McConaghy—a haunting, beautifully written novel set on a remote island where a fractured family guards a global seed vault. When a mysterious woman washes ashore, long-buried secrets surface, testing trust, grief, and resilience. Come enjoy thoughtful conversation, community, and a little bubbly and savory and sweet bites as we reflect on this powerful story together!

Questions? Contact Claire Roberts at clerkus@gmail.com or 956-270-2565.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Belong. Lean in. Launch out.

Whether you're brand new to CTR or have been here for years, **community groups are for you!**

These smaller gatherings meet regularly in homes throughout Greater Portland. Together we:

- Form friendships
- Share meals
- Pray for and engage one another throughout the week
- Encourage one another to live on mission in our everyday contexts

Why join a group?

Community groups are the primary way we care for and grow with one another at CTR. No matter your age, stage, or point in your faith journey, you'll find a place to belong, be challenged, and grow as a disciple of Jesus.

We'll learn to keep asking each other: *Where has Christ placed you to serve him this time tomorrow?*

Already in a group?

Watch your inbox! If you attended a group last year, you'll receive an email to confirm your group placement for Fall 2025.

For any questions or concerns, email: amckrell@ctrportland.org.

New to CTR or to community groups?

We would love for you to join us!

Scan the QR code to sign up or email amckrell@ctrportland.org.





This is the perfect time to get your kids connected with CTRKids!

Whether your child is in the nursery, children’s church, Christian Formation classes, or joins us for special events throughout the year, registering them helps us prepare well, keep them safe, and support their spiritual growth.

Signing up ensures your family is in the loop about upcoming opportunities, and it allows our team to care for your kids with excellence.



Use this QR code to sign up your kids!

We can’t wait to see how God will work in their lives this year—don’t miss out, sign them up today!



DEEP ROOTS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As part of our **Deep Roots Capital Campaign**, we’ve invited everyone in our community to prayerfully consider how they can support the next chapter of our church’s life together.

If you would prefer to make a pledge online, please visit our **online pledge form**—and feel free to share the link with friends, family, or others in your circle who believe in the mission of our church.

Every gift, every conversation, and every step of faith helps us put down deep roots for generations to come.



TO PLEDGE
ONLINE

SERVE...

At CTR, we believe that part of what makes the church a beautiful place is that it draws people with various passions and gifts into one body. Below are some opportunities to use your passions and gifts to serve one another and our local community.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIESAbby Reid
Phone: 404.723.4448
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

GREETER MINISTRY Abby Reid
Phone: 404.723.4448
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

MEALS MINISTRY Tammy Locke
Phone: 207.671.0936
E-mail: tam74maine@gmail.com

MISSIONS COORDINATOR.....Kathi Favre
Phone: 207.298.2089
E-mail: klfavre@gmail.com

MUSIC..... Kendra Hollen
Phone: 207.272.4104
E-mail: khollen@ctrportland.org

SET-UP EJ Kruse
Phone: 814-392-4810
E-mail: ejkruse89@gmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS.....Claire Roberts
Phone: 956.270.2565
E-mail: clerkus@gmail.com

How Do I Get and Stay Connected at CTR?

At CTR we long for clear communication and deep bonds. We are excited that you're interested in being more connected and involved. The following is a list of our communication channels and their purpose in the life of our body:

1. EMAIL NEWSLETTER (*Keeping in Touch*)

This is the primary vehicle by which we communicate regarding the life of our church. Most weeks you will receive an email with announcements and upcoming events. From time to time, our elders will also use this vehicle for church-wide or members only correspondence. **NOTE:** *If you are not regularly checking your email from CTR, it will be difficult to feel and be connected in the life of our church.* [Use this QR code to sign up for the email.]



2. CTR APP & TEXT MESSAGES

The CTR App is designed to help those in our church interact with each other. It is largely crowd sourced and includes information on informal meetups, prayer requests, live and past sermons/services, different hobby groups, ways to give, etc. [See page 18 to download the App.]

Text Messages are sent exclusively as reminders about events in the days/hours immediately beforehand.

3. SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday mornings employ several communication methods, including written **announcements in our Order of Worship**, verbally highlighted **announcements**, and (new) **projected announcements** running before and after the service. Sunday Morning announcements are focused on pointing people to events and ministries that help them explore or integrate more fully into the life of our church. Given the diverse backgrounds and circumstances of those attending Sunday Morning Worship, only on rare and exceptional occasions will these vehicles be used by leadership for information that is primarily member focused.

4. CTR WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

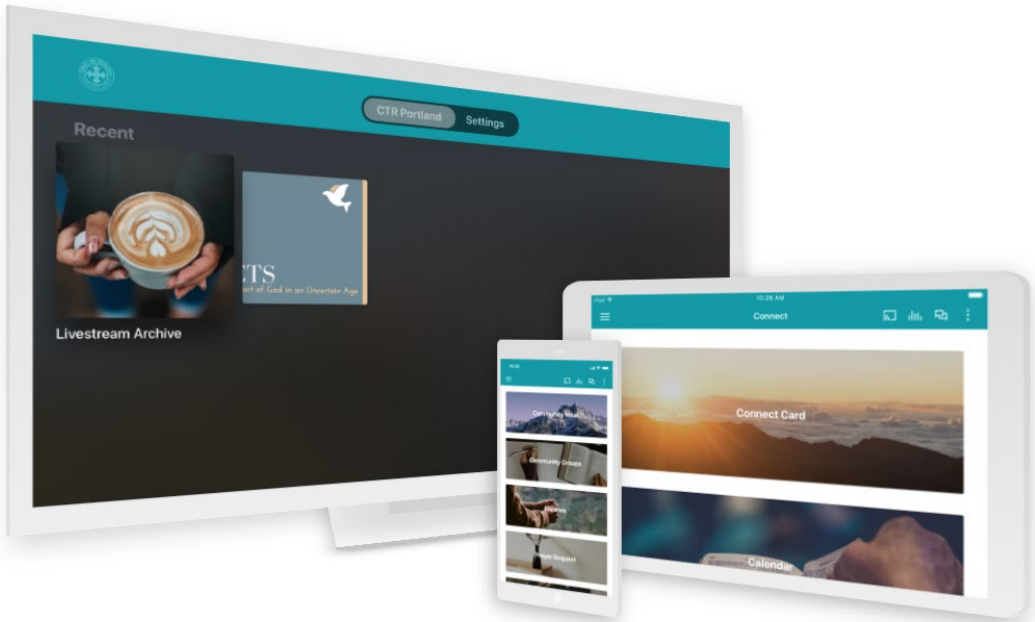
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

The CTR Website [ctrportland.org] is designed to be our front door—a welcoming place for new people to discover and learn about our church. It is minimal in announcements and church life information.

Social Media [Instagram & Facebook] is used for promotion of church events. People are encouraged to “re-post” as a way of sharing with and inviting their friends. [@ctrportland]

If you would like to access or have had difficulty accessing any of these vehicles, please contact ctr@ctrportland.org. Our admin, Cheryl Sullivan, is happy to help you get integrated into our communication systems.

DOWNLOAD THE CTR APP!





**CHRIST
THE REDEEMER**
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church
longs to be a diverse people who gather around
and extend the table of God's grace.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:00 AM

Reverend Sean J.S. Roberts, Lead Pastor

E-mail: SRoberts@CTRPortland.org
Tel. 956.207.1398

Reverend Alden D. Groves, Assistant Pastor

E-mail: AGroves@CTRPortland.org
Tel. 215.704.0132

**Kendra Hollen,
Music Ministry Director**

[E-Mail: khollen@CTRPortland.org]

**Amanda McKrell,
Director of Community Development**

[E-mail: amckrell@CTRPortland.org]

**Abby Reid,
Children's Ministry Director &
Connections Coordinator**

[E-Mail: areid@CTRPortland.org]

Cheryl Sullivan, Administrator

[E-Mail: ctr@CTRPortland.org]

Laura Wiersma, Ministry Assistant

[E-Mail: lwiersma@CTRPortland.org]

In need of assistance?

If you're experiencing a material need beyond what you can manage, the CTR Deacons may be able to help. Please call them at 207-331-1304 or email deacons@ctrportland.org. All inquiries will remain confidential, and you will receive a reply within twenty-four hours.

Offices located at North Deering Congregational Church, 1364 Washington Avenue, Portland

CTR is co-located at the
WHITE MEMORIAL SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
97 Allen Avenue | Portland, ME 04103
207.878.1211 | <https://ctrportland.org>